

U.S. Serial No. 10/799,193

Docket No. 1232-5326

**Remarks****Status Of Claims**

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 are the currently pending independent claims from which all other claims depend either directly, or indirectly. Claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 are amended herein. Applicants respectfully assert no new matter is added.

**Claim Objections**

Claims 1-17 stand objected to for alleged informalities. Independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 stand objected to as allegedly lacking antecedent basis (Office Action, on page 2). Claim 2 stands objected to as allegedly lacking antecedent basis (Office Action, on page 2).

Each of claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 have been amended rendering the objections set forth in the Office Action as set forth on page 2 moot. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of all claim objections.

**Response to Claim Rejections under 37 C.F.R. § 102(b)**

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Yano et al. (US 6352327; "Yano '327"). Each of independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 have been amended and distinguish over the disclosure of Yano '327.

Each of independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 recite "a plurality of arrayed chips". Additionally, claims 1 and 16 recite "print elements in adjoining chips are aligned in a scan direction forming a set of print elements". Claims 6 and 11 recite "print elements in adjoining chips are aligned in the scan direction forming a set of print elements".

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Applicants respectfully assert that independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16, as well as their respective dependent claims are distinguished over the disclosure of Yano '327 at least in view of, but not limited to, the aforementioned recitations.

In view of the above Yano '327 does not disclose all elements of Applicants' claimed invention expressly, or inherently, and no case of anticipation exists. Thus, Applicants' respectfully request the withdrawal of all rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Yano '327.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully asserts that the application is now believed to be in a form for allowance and such action is hereby solicited.

If any points remain an issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through an additional personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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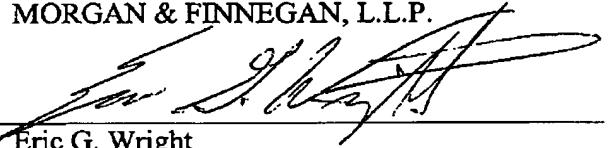
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**AUTHORIZATION**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5326. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,  
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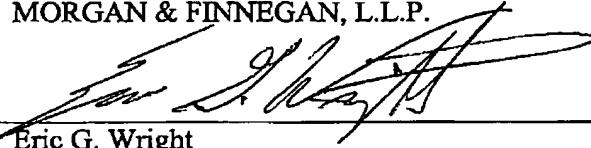
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